AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-62 (Canceled).

63. (New) A method of treating insomnia in a human patient, comprising:

providing an oral spray composition comprising zolpidem or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in an amount of between 2.5 and 20 percent by weight of the total composition;

a polar solvent in an amount between 15 and 60 percent by weight of the total composition; and

water; and

spraying the composition on the oral mucosa of the patient to provide transmucosal absorption of an amount of zolpidem through the oral mucosa to the systemic circulatory system of the patient sufficient to treat the patient's insomnia.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition further comprises a taste mask and/or flavoring agent in an amount of between 0.1 and 10 percent by weight of the total composition.

65. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the zolpidem or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is present in an amount between 2.5 and 15 percent by weight of the total composition.

66. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the zolpidem or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is present in an amount between 2.5 and 10 percent by weight of the total composition.

67. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is zolpidem tartrate.

68. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is present in an amount between 25 and 50 percent by weight of the total composition.

69. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is present in an amount between 30 and 45 percent by weight of the total composition.

70. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycols having a molecular weight between 400 and 1000, C_2 to C_8 mono- and poly-alcohols, and C_7 to C_{18} alcohols of linear or branched configuration.

71. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is polyethylene glycol.

72. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is ethanol.

73. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the polar solvent is propylene glycol.

74. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition comprises a flavoring agent selected from the group consisting of synthetic or natural oil of peppermint, oil of spearmint, citrus oil, fruit flavors, sweeteners, and mixtures thereof.

75. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the amount of the spray is predetermined.

76. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition is propellant free.

77. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition further comprises a buffer.

78. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition comprises zolpidem tartrate and propylene glycol.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the zolpidem tartrate is present in an amount between 2.5 and 10 percent by weight of the total composition.

80. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the propylene glycol is present in an amount between 20 and 45 percent by weight of the total composition.

81. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising a buffer.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, further comprising a flavorant or taste masking agent.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the composition is propellant free.